

Behavioural Assessment Report

Client:	Lisa Simpson	Date of Referral:	30/06/2020
NDIS Number:	430119985	Date of Report:	30/12/2020
Date of Birth:	27/07/1979	Practitioner:	Emma Yeark

Reasons for Referral:

Lisa Simpson was referred to Create a Sense of Place by her Support Coordinator Debby Dickson (Sunnyfield).

Lisa Simpson was initially referred for Behavioural Assessment and the development of a Behavioural Support Plan. Her Support Coordinator stated: *“the main behavioural issues are her phobias around large buildings, shopping centres etc. She will drop to the ground and even put her feet out to prevent being pushed in a wheelchair”.*

Description of Assessment Activities:

Throughout the assessment process, information was gathered in a variety of ways. The Behaviour Support Practitioner undertook direct observations of Lisa Simpson on multiple occasions and across different environments and settings:

- In Lisa Simpson’s home 17/08/2020 & 09/12/2020
- At Lisa Simpson’s Day Program Centre (Sunnyfield – Maitland) 13/11/2020
- In the community (lunch at local establishments) 20/11/2020 & 11/12/2020
- In the community (swimming at local community pool) 04/02/2021

Interviewing also occurred with Lisa Simpson’s key support workers as well as Lisa Simpson’s father:

- Interviewing with (father) 17/08/2020 & 09/12/2020
- Interviewing with Sunnyfield Key Support Staff (13/11/2020)
- Interviewing with Rose’s Place key support worker (04/02/2021)
- Correspondence with Rose’s Place director via email
- Correspondence with Lisa Simpson’s Occupational Therapist via email

Throughout the Assessment process, the following document was also reviewed:

- Occupational Therapy Assessment Report and Recommendations (28/01/2020)

Although data collection was requested (in the form of an ABC chart) surrounding Lisa Simpson's presenting behaviours, no data to date has been provided for analysis or review. The Motivational Assessment Scale (1986 V. Mark Durand) was also completed in regards to Lisa Simpson's reported behaviours.

Background Information:

Description of Person:

Lisa Simpson is a 41 year old female with a diagnosis of Downs Syndrome. Lisa Simpson also has diabetes and this is managed with twice daily insulin injection. Lisa Simpson is 145cm tall and weighs 98kg. Lisa Simpson has dark brown hair that she wears cut short.

At current, no comment can be made on Lisa Simpson's physical limitations and strengths as there has been no input received from Lisa Simpson's General Practitioner or physiotherapist. In observations of Lisa Simpson in the home and community settings, Lisa Simpson appears to struggle with physical mobility and walking. Lisa Simpson pauses often and requires hands on support and assistance when walking (requiring support workers to hold her hand and allow her to lean on them for stabilisation).

Requests have also been made regarding a formalised Language assessment for Lisa Simpson as there are no current assessed findings regarding Lisa Simpson's language abilities. Lisa Simpson's father Stan reported to Practitioner that Lisa Simpson was "non-verbal", however, through assessment processes Lisa Simpson was able to speak 1-2 words at a time. There are no current findings regarding Lisa Simpson's receptive language skills or ability.

Lisa Simpson's Occupational Therapist completed a "Supported Independent Living Suitability Assessment" for Lisa Simpson in January that outlined Lisa Simpson's level of skill and need in the following areas:

- Mobility: Significant hands-on assistance required with walking and navigating stairs
- Transfers: Verbal prompting and minimal assistance required
- Toileting and Continence: Urinary incontinence and faecal incontinence when unwell. Assistance required with managing pull-ups.
- Showering: Verbal prompting and some hands-on assistance
- Dressing / Undressing: Verbal prompting and assistance with buttons/zippers/tie ups.
- Grooming: Assistance required for hair brushing and deodorant application. Lisa Simpson is reported to refuse to brush her teeth or allow assistance with this.
- Medication Management: Lisa Simpson has full reliance on her support network for medication management. At current, her father Stan administers her insulin injections twice daily.
- Eating / Drinking: Lisa Simpson receives verbal prompting for eating when in the home. Lisa Simpson's father Stan has reported to the Occupational Therapist that at times he has needed to "hit her back or prompt her to slow down" as he believes Lisa Simpson rushes her food and this has lead to choking. Whilst at day programs or

supported outings, Lisa Simpson has her food cut up for her into small pieces. Lisa Simpson has not had any choking events or incidents reported whilst supported this way.

- **Communication:** Extremely limited verbal output. Lisa Simpson's father reported to the Occupational Therapist that Lisa Simpson can; sometimes say single words, can "get her point across", and is able to follow simple instructions.
- **Rest / Sleep:** Lisa Simpson sleeps through the night.
- **Education / Employment:** Lisa Simpson is on the Disability Support Pension. Lisa Simpson does not attend any education facilities / courses nor does she undertake supported employment.
- **Meal Preparation:** Lisa Simpson requires full assistance with meal preparation. At current, Lisa Simpson's father Stan completes all meal preparation for Lisa Simpson.
- **Cleaning:** Lisa Simpson is dependent on others for cleaning.
- **Laundry:** Lisa Simpson is dependent on others for laundry tasks.
- **Shopping:** Lisa Simpson is dependent on others for her shopping.
- **Financial Management:** Lisa Simpson is fully dependant on others for this. Her father Stan currently manages all of Lisa Simpson's finances.
- **Transport:** Lisa Simpson is dependent on others for transport.
- **Car Transfers:** Lisa Simpson's Occupational Therapist found that Lisa Simpson is independent in getting in and out of the car.
- **Leisure:** Lisa Simpson requires full assistance when accessing her activities and leisure groups. Lisa Simpson enjoys attending Day Programs, going out for lunch (at known environments) and swimming.
- **Yard Maintenance:** Fully dependent on others.
- **Cognition:** The Occupational Therapist reported "significant cognitive impairment based on functional abilities".
- **Behaviour:** The Occupational Therapist reported that Lisa Simpson "reportedly fears large buildings, elevators, escalators, machinery and noise. She gets agitated in crowds".
- **Mood:** Reports from Lisa Simpson's father Stan that "Lisa Simpson can become teary".

Living Arrangements:

Lisa Simpson lives with her father Stan in Greta (NSW). Lisa Simpson lives in a house that is owned by her brother Adam whom Lisa Simpson and Stan pay rent to. Lisa Simpson has her own bedroom with her belongings stored in her room. Lisa Simpson sleeps on a single bed and has a television in her bedroom that she uses daily. Recently, Lisa Simpson's father and brother installed a window unit air conditioner in her bedroom to make it more comfortable for her. Lisa Simpson's father has reported that Lisa Simpson spends a lot of her time in her bedroom watching television.

Lisa Simpson has lived with family her whole life. Lisa Simpson was living with both her mother and father up until her mother's death in 2018. Lisa Simpson's mother had her own disability and health related requirements and needs.

Lisa Simpson's father Stan is her primary caregiver and she sees her brother Adam most days. Adam lives within driving distance from the home and Lisa Simpson's father also assists Adam with his daily living needs.

Daily Schedule and Services Received:

Lisa Simpson has been attending Sunnyfield Day Programs Centre in Maitland (NSW) for approximately 10 years. Lisa Simpson attends Sunnyfield 4 days per week at current (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday) and is supported to participate in activities of leisure (both in-centre and out in the community). Lisa Simpson is supported at a 1:3 staff ratio whilst at Sunnyfield.

Lisa Simpson receives support on Thursday mornings to access the community at a 1:1 ratio. This support is accessed through Rose's Place. Lisa Simpson enjoys swimming on these mornings. At times, Lisa Simpson will also attend shopping centres with her support worker during this time.

Lisa Simpson receives in-home personal care and domestic assistance from Rose's place 6 days per week on a 1:1 ratio.

Lisa Simpson's weekly routine and schedule is set in place and is predictable for Lisa Simpson.

Health / Medical / Psychiatric:

Lisa Simpson has been diagnosed with diabetes and requires twice daily insulin injections. Lisa Simpson is reported by her father to be of sound general health without any ongoing illnesses reported.

Lisa Simpson is overweight and it is believed that this could impact on her health significantly.

It was requested that Lisa Simpson attend medical screening and a comprehensive health assessment (including vision and hearing checks) as there were no current health reports available. This has not yet occurred to the Practitioner's knowledge.

Lisa Simpson appears to have significant pain in her leg and hip and this limits her mobility. It has been requested and suggested that Lisa Simpson visit her GP with possible physiotherapy referral for determination of the pain source and treatment strategies. Lisa Simpson's father Stan has declined this and stated that he feels that this is not required as he believes that Lisa Simpson will cease having pain after losing weight.

There is no known or reported seizure activity for Lisa Simpson.

Lisa Simpson has not had any psychiatric assessment or evaluation.

Eating Patterns:

Lisa Simpson's father prepares all of her food in the home and packs her lunches to take to her day programs centre (on days when Lisa Simpson does not attend lunch outings).

As Lisa Simpson is diabetic, her eating patterns are extremely important in regards to her physical health. Lisa Simpson's support staff at Sunnyfield report that Lisa Simpson consistently brings the same lunch for days in the centre. Lisa Simpson attends with a banana, a serving of yoghurt and two sandwiches. Stan reported that Lisa Simpson has a balanced diet and is not a fussy or picky eater.

Sleeping Patterns:

Lisa Simpson is reported to go to bed with the television on in her bedroom. Lisa Simpson is reported to get into bed between 8:30pm and 10:00pm each night. Lisa Simpson's father Stan turns Lisa Simpson's television off before he goes to bed at night time and this can vary in regards to time.

Lisa Simpson wakes up each morning at 7:00am. Lisa Simpson is reported to sleep through the night.

Communication Ability:

Whilst there are no formalised assessment findings available for Lisa Simpson's communication abilities, it is observed and reported that Lisa Simpson struggles with communication. Lisa Simpson is predominantly non-verbal, saying one or two words sporadically. Lisa Simpson will communicate with sounds, gestures and body movement. Lisa Simpson is able to follow simple, 1 step instructions.

Choice and Control:

Lisa Simpson has minimal choice and control in her life. Lisa Simpson's services, supports, clothing, food choices, activities of leisure and finances are all decided upon by her father Stan.

Treatments: previous or current:

There has been no reports of past Behavioural Support Interventions or assistance. This is the first instance of Behavioural Support funding being made available in Lisa Simpson's NDIS plan.

Functional Analysis: Behaviour 1

Description of behaviour:

Lisa Simpson is reported to refuse to enter large buildings, shopping centres, elevators, stair cases, hospitals, doctors surgeries, pubs and clubs.

Topography

- Refusing to walk
- Sitting on the ground or a nearby chair and refusing to stand back up or relocate
- Shaking her head when prompted

-Crying

-When placed in a wheelchair, sticking her legs out to either side or onto the ground to stop the movement.

Onset/Offset

Onset: Upon arrival at any places that Lisa Simpson has perceived 'fear' of.

Offset: Lisa Simpson will regulate when pressure to enter the building is ceased and Lisa Simpson is removed from the environment.

Quality of Life impact

Lisa Simpson's quality of life is being impacted in a negative manner. Lisa Simpson's father has reported that Lisa Simpson has missed medical appointments, blood testing and other significant appointments as a result of this behaviour. As a result, Lisa Simpson's physical health may be impacted. Lisa Simpson is also unable to fully participate in daily life and community engagement.

Precursors

Precursors of this behaviour include:

- slowing of pace
- more regular sitting
- frowning
- vocalisation of low tone sounds and concern
- shaking her head

Strength

The strength of this behaviour varies on the level of concern Lisa Simpson has for the building or centre that she is facing. Lisa Simpson's behaviour of concern will be stronger when faced with a hospital and less intense when faced with a car park or smaller sized shopping centre.

Rate

Stan has reported that this behaviour occurs each time he attempts to take Lisa Simpson out in the community. Lisa Simpson's formal supports have reported less regularity.

History of the Problem:

Onset

Lisa Simpson's father Stan has reported that the onset of this behaviour occurred following the death of Lisa Simpson's mother.

Duration

Stan has also reported that Lisa Simpson has consistently displayed this behaviour each time she has accessed the community with Stan since the passing of her mother.

Recent Changes

Stan has reported that there have been no recent changes in this behaviour. It has been reported by Lisa Simpson's support workers at Sunnyfield however, that over the past 6 months, Lisa Simpson has been less likely to display these behaviours when attending group lunches at the local bowling club.

Antecedent Analysis:

Setting events

Lisa Simpson's physical pain in her hip and leg could be contributing to this behaviour.

Trigger events –

Specific Locations Lisa Simpson is most likely to display this behaviour:

- Cessnock Bowling Club
- Hospitals
- Dr Surgery
- Best and Less (Maitland)

Specific persons Lisa Simpson is most likely to display this behaviour with:

- Father Stan

Specific Times of Day Lisa Simpson more likely to engage in this behaviour:

- No specific time

Specific Activities or Events most likely to lead to behaviour:

- Attending the local pub / club
- Extended periods of walking / exercise
- Having to attend the doctors or hospital for a medical reason

Consequence Analysis:

Non-planned reactions

When Lisa Simpson displays this behaviour whilst supported by her father Stan, Stan attempts to coerce Lisa Simpson by: attempting to lift her to her feet, attempting to guide her, verbally prompting Lisa Simpson to move and requesting assistance from those around him to assist with redirection (physical).

Lisa Simpson's support workers attempt to manage the behaviour by sitting with Lisa Simpson, providing gentle encouragement and prompting, waiting until she is ready to stand and walk again and redirecting her to another environment if needed.

Impact of non-planned reactions

Lisa Simpson has been reported by Stan to become extremely heightened and escalated upon his reactions to her behaviour. Lisa Simpson has been reported to sit on the hot concrete and

cry excessively whilst refusing to get up and relocate or change environments. Lisa Simpson's behaviour becomes heightened when these reactions or responses are implemented. Lisa Simpson has been reported and observed by practitioner to respond well to verbal encouragement, prompting and support in a slow and gentle manner by her support workers. Lisa Simpson is able to be redirected to another environment and in some cases Lisa Simpson has been able to be encouraged to enter vicinities or locations of refusal.

Formal management methods (used to date)

There have been no formal management methods used to date.

Maintaining events – anything that continues behaviour or likelihood

By redirecting Lisa Simpson to another environment or away from the setting or triggering events, Lisa Simpson is able to escape and avoid. This maintains the behaviour of concern.

Impressions and Analysis of Meaning:

Hypotheses of function

The Motivational Assessment Scale (1986 V. Mark Durand) was completed for this behaviour of concern with results indicating that this behaviour could be motivated by "Escape". It is hypothesised that Lisa Simpson is undertaking this behaviour in order to escape or avoid environments, activities and events that are undesirable to her. Lisa Simpson has been reported by her father, Occupational Therapist and Support Coordinator to have phobias of public places, certain locations and areas. This is consistent with the avoid/escape function that is hypothesised for this behaviour.

Lisa Simpson's father has reported that it is his belief that Lisa Simpson engages in this behaviour as a result of her phobias.

Functional Analysis: Behaviour 2

Description of behaviour:

Sitting down and refusing to get up/move/walk

Topography

Whilst mobilising (walking), Lisa Simpson will stop and sit down. Lisa Simpson will be more inclined to sit on a bench or seat if available, however, will sit on the ground if there is no seat nearby.

Lisa Simpson will refuse to stand back up or move.

Onset/Offset

Onset: After walking for distances of 25-30 metres or for time periods of longer than 5 minutes. After sitting in one position for long periods of time (upwards of 30 minutes).

Offset: Variable. Lisa Simpson may mobilise after 5 minutes and at times may not mobilise for upwards of an hour.

Quality of Life impact

This behaviour is impacting on Lisa Simpson's quality of life in a negative manner. Lisa Simpson is being limited in her access to and engagement in the community.

Precursors

- Lisa Simpson will stop walking.
- Lisa Simpson will shake her head.
- Lisa Simpson will place one hand on her hip
- Lisa Simpson will groan
- Lisa Simpson may lean more heavily on those supporting her (holding her hand)
- Lisa Simpson will frown / grimace

Strength

The strength of this behaviour is variable and depends on the reaction and management by those around her.

Rate

This behaviour occurs each time Lisa Simpson has to walk distances further than approximately 25-30 metres or for longer than 5 minutes.
This behaviour also occurs each time Lisa Simpson has been sitting for longer than 30 minutes.
This is a daily behaviour.

History of the Problem:

Onset

Lisa Simpson's father Stan has reported that this is a newly developed behaviour that has presented "at some stage" over the past 12 months.

Duration

Lisa Simpson's father Stan has reported that this behaviour has been occurring consistently for approximately 12 months.

Recent Changes

Whilst Lisa Simpson's father has reported that there have been no recent changes in this behaviour, conflicting reports have been received from Lisa Simpson's key support staff at Sunnyfield. Sunnyfield staff have reported that there has been an increase in the presentation of this behaviour in the past 6 months.

Antecedent Analysis:

Setting events –

Lisa Simpson may have a medical / physical condition that is causing this behaviour. Lisa Simpson appears to be in pain when this behaviour is presented.

Trigger events –

Specific Locations Lisa Simpson is most likely to display this behaviour:

- This behaviour occurs across all environments

Specific persons Lisa Simpson is most likely to display this behaviour with:

- This behaviour occurs with all persons.
- This behaviour does last longer when Lisa Simpson is supported by her father Stan.

Specific Times of Day Lisa Simpson more likely to engage in this behaviour:

- No specific time – this behaviour occurs at all and any time of day.

Specific Activities or Events most likely to lead to behaviour:

- Walking
- Exercise activities
- Stairs
- Sitting for long periods of time

Consequence Analysis:

Non-planned reactions (reactions so far that not in BSP)

When Lisa Simpson displays this behaviour whilst supported by her father Stan, Stan attempts to coerce Lisa Simpson by: attempting to lift her to her feet, attempting to guide her, verbally prompting Lisa Simpson to move and requesting assistance from those around him to assist with redirection (physical).

Lisa Simpson's support workers attempt to manage the behaviour by providing further physical support and stabilisation for Lisa Simpson, sitting with Lisa Simpson, providing gentle encouragement and prompting, waiting until she is ready to stand and walk again.

Impact of non-planned reactions

Lisa Simpson becomes heightened and will get agitated if she is physically prompted or pushed/pulled to stand prior to being ready to do so.

Lisa Simpson is able to mobilise in a more timely manner when given time and space to rest before being physically supported to move.

Formal management methods (used to date)

There have been no formal management methods trialled or implemented to date.

Maintaining events

By pushing Lisa Simpson to continue walking or encouraging and prompting her to stand and mobilise too soon, this maintains the behaviour being displayed.

Impressions and Analysis of Meaning:

Hypotheses of function

The Motivational Assessment Scale (1986 V. Mark Durand) was completed for this behaviour of concern with results indicating that this behaviour could be motivated by “Sensory” and “Escape”.

It has been hypothesised by Lisa Simpson’s father Stan, her key support workers and also the Practitioner that Lisa Simpson engages in this behaviour to avoid / escape pain.

In addition to the findings of the Motivational Assessment Scale, observations, reports and interviewing with Lisa Simpson’s key stakeholders have indicated that Lisa Simpson is engaging in this behaviour to avoid further pain.

Motivation Analysis:

Method of analysis

Given Lisa Simpson’s communication limitations, she was unable to self-identify or report any potential reinforcers. As such, the following methods were used to identify potential reinforcers for Lisa Simpson:

- Functional Assessment Interviewing with Stan and key support workers at Sunnyfield
- Direct client observation

Potential reinforcers

The following have been identified as potential reinforcers for Lisa Simpson:

- Attending the local pool for swimming
- Going out for lunch (particularly getting a chicken schnitzel and chips with gravy)
- Dolls or other such toys that have long ‘hair’
- Verbal encouragement, praise and positive acknowledgement

Limits in reinforcers

It is important to consider the limitations in these reinforcers. As Lisa Simpson is unable to self-report or identify her own positive reinforcers, these reinforcers are hypothesised and may not be highly motivating for Lisa Simpson.

There are also resource limitations to consider in regards to the reinforcers of “dolls” and going out for lunch. These reinforcers cost money and as Lisa Simpson is on a Disability Support Pension, there may not be a high amount of funding available for these.

Mediator Analysis:

Identification of who will be implementing BSP

It is important that a consistent approach is taken across Lisa Simpson's various environments.

The following people will be trained in the implementation of the Behaviour Support Plan:

- Stan (father)
- Sunnyfield Day Programs Support Staff
- Sunnyfield Day Programs Team Leader
- Rose's Place support staff
- Rose's Place Team Leader

Estimate of abilities to carry out interventions

As interventions for Lisa Simpson will not be complex, it is envisioned that Lisa Simpson's support staff and family members should have the ability and capacity to implement interventions proposed.

Supervision and management processes for program

The implementation and effectiveness of the Behaviour Support Plan will be monitored by the Practitioner. Funding permitted, further training will be provided to implementors of the plan where required. It will be requested that data is collected surrounding presenting behaviours of concern following the plan implementation so the program can be supervised effectively.

Comments and Recommendations:

The implementation of the BSP

The development of Lisa Simpson's Behaviour Support Plan has followed the Functional Behavioural Assessment Process. This Behaviour Support Plan will be implemented across Lisa Simpson's home and community environments and will be reviewed on a regular basis. It is highly important that the Behaviour Support Plan is implemented consistently.

Any anticipated difficulties

It is anticipated that training in the Behaviour Support Plan may be difficult to arrange given Lisa Simpson has multiple service providers and supports in her life. Funding permitted, multiple training sessions for staff and stakeholders (family) will be held to ensure that all implementors are trained in management strategies.

Recommendations for future services

It is HIGHLY recommended that Lisa Simpson attend physical health screenings and physiotherapy for exploration of possible pain in her hips and legs and diagnosis. This was recommended to Lisa Simpson's father throughout the assessment process, however, to the knowledge of the Practitioner, this is still yet to occur.

It is HIGHLY recommended that Lisa Simpson receive Occupational Therapy input and assistance for the assessment and scripting of assistive technology for mobilisation. Lisa Simpson would benefit greatly from receiving an aid to assist with her mobilisation and walking (i.e. walker). This was recommended to Lisa Simpson's father throughout the assessment process however, he has declined this and is of the belief that this would cause Lisa Simpson to decline in her physical mobility. When questioned about this further, Stan stated that Lisa Simpson "needs to lose weight" (without using such assistive devices) and it is his belief that this would alleviate her leg and hip pain.

It is also recommended that Lisa Simpson receive ongoing regular and consistent Occupational Therapy for skill retention and development in her home environment.

It is also recommended that Lisa Simpson receive formalised language and communication assessment as well as ongoing therapy input from a Speech Therapist.

Lisa Simpson would also benefit from the exploration of Supported Independent Living options. Lisa Simpson's father has spoken about his concerns surrounding Lisa Simpson's future if he were to become unwell. Observations and reports of Lisa Simpson's home environment also demonstrate that Lisa Simpson may be better placed in a Supported Independent Living facility. Lisa Simpson's only support in the home at current is her father Stan who has reported that due to his own age, health implications and issues, he has concerns for Lisa Simpson's future and wellbeing if Lisa Simpson is not living in a Supported Independent Living facility.



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